

29. (Amended) An interactive online postage printing system comprising:
an installation wizard including a graphical user interface (GUI) for downloading and installing software for postage printing from a server connected to a computer network;
a registration wizard including a GUI for facilitating the registration of a user using a user computer with the system; and
a printing wizard including a GUI for facilitating printing of a postage indicium; wherein the server transmits an authorization message to the user computer over the computer network for authoring the printing of the VBI.

52. (Amended) A method for printing a value bearing item (VBI) over a computer network having a client system and a server system, the method comprising the steps of:
displaying a first GUI by the client system for registering a user;
establishing communication with the server via the computer network;
entering user information in the first GUI;
communicating the entered user information to the server; and
transmitting an authorization message from the server to the client system over the computer network for authoring the client system to print the VBI.

REMARKS

Claims 1, 29, and 52 are amended responsive to Written Opinion in the corresponding PCT application (PCT/US00/14937). All the amended claims were deemed patentable in a subsequent International Preliminary Examination Report, a copy of which is included with a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement.

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance, and accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.